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DPD-3511-61

6 June 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, DPD

SUBJECT : Trip Report

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The following is a resume of the undersigned's recent TDY to [REDACTED] Detachment G. Outlined below are support topics which were discussed at both locations. In most instances, I will endeavor to recommend appropriate action to be taken by the various DPD components. Final action will be based on approval of these recommendations by the Acting Chief or the Assistant Chief, DPD

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1. An entire working day was spent [REDACTED] Subsequent to arrival, the undersigned was given an extensive tour of the installation

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✓ a. Status of Allowance for [REDACTED]: DPD Admin is currently preparing a paper on this subject.

ACTION: Complete paper and forward as soon as possible for approval. The results will enable candidates selected for assignments to be fully briefed on allowances prior to PCS arrival.

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✓ b. Personnel: It was brought out by the Chief of Base and confirmed by the other two gentlemen in attendance that Headquarters assign at this time only those individuals required and necessary to accomplish the job at hand. The following represents a run-down of the personnel situation:

✓ (1) Guards: Additional guards, over and above the present complement, should not be assigned prior to August 1961. This, of course, could change pending any slippage in the over-all program.

✓ (2) Personnel Technician (Office of the Chief): It was requested this individual be assigned as soon as possible.

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(3) Medical Technician: This individual can be assigned at any time, bearing in mind, his presence is not urgently required.

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(4) Warehouse Men, Supply Men and Inventory Clerks: The [REDACTED] is ready to accept the assignment of these personnel at any time.

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(5) Air Force Installations Officer: The COB had indicated that he has heard, via the grape vine, that an Air Force Installations Officer was to be assigned to [REDACTED]. The COB is desirous of knowing if this assignment is firm and if so, the processing status of the individual selected.

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(6) Cryptographer: The cryptographer currently assigned to [REDACTED] is scheduled for leave on 22 June. The COB indicated a replacement is not necessary, however, if the Commo Staff is desirous of sending a replacement this is acceptable.

(7) Fire Fighters: Currently, there are 11 Air Force Fire Fighters selected for assignment to [REDACTED]. The COB is desirous of knowing the ETA of these individuals since they will be replacing contract fire fighters and appropriate notification of termination must be given. The COB indicated, in his opinion, four or five additional fire fighters will be required to provide adequate coverage. This requirement will be subsequent to the base becoming operational. (Discussions with the Chief, Personnel, DPD, indicates that the Air Force personnel will be assigned on 1 August 1961. This information will be relayed to the COB for planning purposes.)

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(8) Operations Personnel: Operations personnel should not be assigned prior to a definite requirement existing for their services.

ACTION: It is recommended the Chief, Personnel Branch, DPD proceed with the appropriate action to accomplish the above-mentioned personnel assignments. In all instances, it is requested these individuals destined for assignment to [REDACTED] be fully briefed on the length of tour, living conditions and allowances, if applicable.

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c. Security: In discussions with the Security Officer, he indicated that personnel generally spend their weekends at

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two areas, [REDACTED] and Los Angeles. Considering the environment and surroundings of these two cities, the most desirable from a security standpoint would be to have as many personnel as possible spend their off-time in the Los Angeles area (the lesser of two evils). However, the LAC shuttle between Los Angeles and [REDACTED] has been extremely irregular and, within the last month or so, has not had space available to accommodate any of our personnel. It is my understanding that the 1649 will, in the future, be making scheduled trips to [REDACTED] thus alleviating the situation.

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✓ d. Finance: The contract guards assigned to [REDACTED] have not been receiving Statement of Earnings on a regular basis. They inform me that they were advised that they were only issued statements when personnel claimed overtime, however, several of the statements shown to me on the spot did not reflect overtime and I believe these statements are available to all personnel for each pay period.

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ACTION: Recommend DPD Personnel review this matter and, if the Statement of Earnings are available for each and every pay period, they should be transmitted to [REDACTED]

e. Materiel:

(1) I was questioned about the status of the 35 mm films requested for showing at [REDACTED] Prior to my departure, DPD Materiel had indicated that this was in the hands [REDACTED]

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ACTION: Recommend DPD Materiel take appropriate follow-up action.

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(2) Fire Loss: The COB is desirous of settling claims of REECO personnel as a result of a fire that occurred at [REDACTED] some time ago. It is my understanding that DPD Materiel has the action on this matter.

ACTION: Recommend Materiel, DPD, take follow-up action as soon as possible since the COB is desirous of settling this matter post haste.

(3) Fire Equipment: The COB indicated a request for additional fire-fighting equipment will be forthcoming in the near future.

ACTION: Materiel, DPD, upon receipt of additional requirements from the COB.

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✓ f. General: Recreational Equipment: After seeing the installation first-hand and having a greater appreciation for the isolation and lack of recreational facilities available, it is recommended that favorable consideration be given to providing an ample amount of recreational equipment to the base. It is my personal opinion that organized sports and recreational activities are a necessity at an isolated post such as this. I think primary consideration should be given to authorizing the construction of a swimming pool and filtration system.

ACTION: Materiel, DPD; Chief, Development Branch, DPD.

DETACHMENT G

The undersigned arrived at Detachment G on the afternoon of 9 May and spent the 10th, 11th and 12th of May at the Detachment. The afternoon of 9 May and the morning of 10 May were spent touring the installation and the remainder of the time was spent in discussing support matters with the various personnel assigned to the installation. The following represents items discussed:

1. Administrative:

✓ a. Reimbursement for Services: During my visit, the Detachment received notification from the host base that janitorial services being provided by the host to the Detachment would cease commencing 1 July. These janitorial services, however, would remain available but reimbursement for services rendered would be necessary. Authority to reimburse for these services was requested.

ACTION: The undersigned indicated he saw no problem in reimbursing the host base for these services and advised the detachment to reply along these lines. Subsequent to my return to Headquarters, an official cable approving reimbursement was forwarded requesting we be advised of the expenditure and the proposed method of payment.

✓ b. DPD Organizational Chart: During my discussion, several individuals had indicated they heard the Division had undergone a recent reorganization. They were interested in knowing the results of this reorganization.

ACTION: Recommend organizational chart reflecting incumbents be forwarded for information. DPD Admin will take appropriate action.

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2. Personnel:

✓ a. Pay Records: I was questioned as to why the Airmen's pay records were no longer maintained at Bolling Air Force Base. The transfer of these pay records to the base has resulted in the loss of BAS. I indicated to the CO it was my impression military records, when feasible, normally followed personnel. However, the CO stated he had been informed that the pay records of the airmen stationed at the Depot were still maintained at Bolling and this appeared to him to be inconsistent.

ACTION: Recommend Personnel Branch, DPD, look into this matter and advise Detachment G accordingly.

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✓ b. [REDACTED] The CO indicated he was desirous of knowing the status of the 20-10 action on [REDACTED]

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ACTION: Personnel follow-up and advise soonest. I have discussed both of the above items with [REDACTED] DPD Personnel.

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✓ c. [REDACTED] I discussed the proposed assignment of [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]. The assignment is acceptable to [REDACTED] and he posed a number of questions, some of which were answered on the spot, others to be resolved at Headquarters. [REDACTED] indicated the lease on his house was up on 13 June and asked if he could plan on departing on that day.

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ACTION: On-the-spot approval for [REDACTED] to depart on 13 June was given. Unanswered questions relative to storage of effects, travel, and leave have been answered via cable.

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3. Security: I spent a complete afternoon with the Security Section conducting informal type discussions relative to their assignments and [REDACTED] in general.

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✓ a. Assignments: I had indicated that Headquarters had requested nominees to fill two security vacancies at the Detachment and that these personnel should be on board during the month of June and ready for assignment to the Detachment some time during the month of July.

✓ b. Guards: Prior to my departure, Security Branch, DPD, had requested that I reaffirm the requirement for two contract guards at the Detachment. The Chief, Security, Detachment G, indicated that they could utilize the two contract guards,

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however, prior to assignment, requested that Headquarters fully brief them on the contents of their contracts, duties to be performed and living conditions in the area. Further, the Chief, Security, Detachment G, would like to be advised of the contents of the Headquarters briefing.

ACTION: DPD Security

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c. [REDACTED] The Detachment Security Officer was aware of the pending re-assignment [REDACTED]. They were anxious to know the specific timing of this assignment and also, advice relative to his replacement.

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ACTION: This was discussed with DPD Security and Personnel. Action has been completed along with cable notification to the field.

d. General: It appeared that the main gripes of these individuals were long separations from families, requirement to fly on a variety of commercial and non-scheduled airlines when insurance coverage is not paid for by the Agency. I advised these personnel that Agency sponsored insurance coverage for security personnel is not a new subject and that OGC had been requested to render a ruling, the results being negative.

✓ 4. Travel: In the course of my discussions with the Detachment Admin Officer, the subject of passports arose. The Admin Officer was of the opinion that passports for personnel located at the Detachment should be maintained by the Detachment and not by Headquarters. He further informed me that the procurement of visas for travel in the areas involved would not present a problem since the visas could be obtained in Los Angeles. This same situation holds true for the Lockheed personnel, since prior to departing on a staging, these personnel report to Lockheed Headquarters 48 hours prior to departure. This would enable them to get the necessary visas required. I am in agreement with the recommendation of having the passports physically located at the Detachment and, if circumstances of which I am not aware do not preclude such an arrangement, it is recommended that all passports for Detachment G personnel be forwarded and maintained [REDACTED]

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ACTION: DPD Travel and Admin will discuss to ascertain if this recommendation is feasible.

5. Communications: An entire morning was spent in round-table discussion with the Communications personnel stationed at Detachment G. The major gripes and problem areas encountered were as follows:

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a. Separation: The Chief, Communications, Detachment G, had started off the session by informing me that personnel had been separated some 138 days out of the last 155 days and such a situation does not lend itself to maintaining a happy household.

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b. Lost Overtime: The complaint registered along this line was that personnel, while on stagings, were working extremely long hours, however, due to an existing regulation could not and were not paid or reimbursed for the full overtime worked. This situation exists because current regulations prohibit the payment of overtime resulting in cash settlement over and above the salary earned by a GS-15, Step 4.

c. Cost of Living: It was indicated that the cost of living in the area, in their opinion, far exceeded that encountered in the Washington area. These costs primarily were in the field of medical care where cash payments were required and charges were not acceptable.

d. Transportation: The distances involved from home to the working area (40 miles one-way) and the cost of operating and maintaining personal vehicles were of prime concern to these personnel.

e. Staff Study: A staff study prepared by the Chief, Commo, Detachment G, was forwarded to DPD Commo for information and action. At the time of my visit a reply to this staff study was not received. The Chief, Commo, Detachment G, was anxious to receive Headquarters reactions to his recommendations. This staff study was contained in [REDACTED] (Commo distribution only).

f. Cover/Security: One of the Commo men had indicated that he was desirous of seeking employment with a private contractor in the area and had requested Headquarters for advice on the procedures to be followed. Headquarters replied in dispatch [REDACTED] which I personally disagree with and am of the opinion this dispatch should be reviewed and rewritten for forwarding to the field.

ACTION: Subsequent to my return, the undersigned met with DPD Communications personnel and outlined to them the above problems. What action can be taken to eliminate the above-mentioned problem areas is somewhat limited. However, the Chief, Commo, DPD, did indicate that, when feasible and advantageous to the Government, Headquarters personnel would be dispatched to lend a helping hand during staging periods. A recommendation on the transportation problem, which is not unique to the Commo personnel, will be contained in my conclusions.

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CONCLUSIONS:

The trip to Detachment G, in my opinion, was enlightening and, I hope, beneficial to the installation. In recapping, I would like to make the following observations and recommendations:

1. It is my understanding that [REDACTED] has never been to Headquarters nor has he had the opportunity to meet all the Headquarters personnel who have the responsibility of supporting him. I am aware that [REDACTED] was scheduled to make an orientation trip to Headquarters, however, circumstances arose which precluded him from doing so. I would like to recommend that [REDACTED] be given this opportunity in the near future.

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2. In view of the long separations encountered by personnel at the Detachment during stagings, recommend that consideration be given, if feasible, to utilizing the two-team approach, whereby stagings could be conducted utilizing one team at a time and all personnel would not be required to be away from the installation and their families.

3. Transportation: Recommend DPD Materiel review the transportation situation with the possibility of having additional QP vehicles assigned to the Detachment, utilizing these on a car pool basis between home and work. I would think that the micro-bus type vehicle (Chevy Greenbriar) would be ideal and serve the purpose. Further, it is my opinion that at least one of these vehicles be assigned to the Communications Section full time. This situation exists in almost all posts known to the writer, due to the abnormal working hours and the requirement to move electronic equipment between [REDACTED] Los Angeles.

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4. Much of the griping and discontent, as I see it, can be attributed to:

a. The fact that at installations where staff, contract and military personnel are located, and all receiving different financial remunerations, a problem will exist. In other words, "The grass always looks greener on the other side of the fence."

b. I think the financial outlay to maintain one's self and family becomes somewhat shocking to individuals after serving at an overseas installation where so many benefits are afforded personnel.

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Deputy Chief, Administrative Staff

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